

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4115
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L NDJAMENA 1716

PASS TO AID

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAID, CD
SUBJ: CONVERSATION WITH PRESIDENT MALLOUM

1. AT HIS REQUEST, I SAW PRESIDENT MALLOUM ON MAY 21 TO REVIEW OUTCOME OF MY WASHINGTON TALKS WITH AID. HE HAD REQUESTED A PRECISE STATEMENT OF THE SORT OF PROJECTS WE WERE PREPARED TO UNDERTAKE. BASED ON THE TELEGRAM DRAFTED AFTER WASHINGTON/AID MEETINGS, WHICH I CLEARED IN ABIDJAN BUT WHICH HAS NOT YET BEEN RECEIVED AT POST, I GAVE HIM FOLLOWING LIST:

A. WE WOULD GIVE HIGH PRIORITY TO COOPERATION WITH WORLD BANK AND SODELAC IN PUTTING A THIRD POLDER INTO PRODUCTION.

B. WE WOULD CONSIDER SIMILAR ACTION IN REGARD TO TIA SATEGUI-DERESSIATION PROJECT.

C. WE WOULD CONSIDER CONSTRUCTION OF THE LOGONE DIKE NORTH OF BONGOR.

D. IN ALL OF THE FOREGOING, WE WOULD ASSIST THE CHADIAN GOVERNMENT IN SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES IN THE AREA CONCERNED.

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E. WE WOULD ENTER THE CHADINA ROAD MAINTENANCE PROGRAM WITH THE WORLD BANK.

F. WE WERE PREPARED TO COMVBR ASSISTANCE IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF MAJOR ROADS SUCH AS THOSE FROM N'DJAMENA Z DJIMTILO AND FROM BONGOR TO LAI.

G. WE WOULD ACCELERATE OUR ONGOING BILATERAL AND REGIONAL PROJECTS WHICH WERE DIRECTLY CONCERNED WITH INCREASED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION.

H. OUR LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS, SUCH AS THOSE IN HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, PUBLIC HEALTH PLANNING, AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURAL INSTITUTIONS, WOULD BE CONTINUED BUT WOULD BE CLOSELY TAILORED TO THE ABSORBATIVE CAPACITIES OF THE CHADIAN GOVERNMENT. IN THIS REGARD, I NOTED THAT ITZAS OUR DESIRE TO HELP CHAD DEVELOP, NOT MERELY TO INCREASE THE SIZE AND THE COST OF ITS GOVERNMENTAL APPARATUS.

I. WE WERE ALSO PREPARED TO ENTER INTO AIP PROJECTS AS A PILOT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF FUTURE LARGE PROJECTS.

2. PRESIDENT MALLOUM WAS IN A HIGHLY EMOTIONAL STATE AND ACCORDINGLY WAS EXTREMELY OUTSPOKEN IN RESPONSE. HE SAID THAT WHILE HE APPRECIATED THE PROGRAMMP G CHANGES WE WERE PREPARED TO MAKE AND THOUGHT THOSE SUCH AS BOL POLDERS WERE PARTICULARLY RESPONSIVE, HE STILL DID NOT BELIEVE OUR OVERALL PROGRAM WAS APPROPRIATE FOR CHAD. HE STATED THAT IT WAS OVERLY DISPERSED, BOTH IN CONTENT AND AREA. I USED OCCASION TO STRONGLY THAT YOUR CASE FOR ATTEMPTING TO INCREASE FOOD PRODUCTION BY HELPING THE SMALL FARMER WHILE KEEPING IN MIND HIS OTHER NEEDS. PRESIDENT STATED THAT, NATURALLY, HE WANTED TO HELP THE SMALL FARMDA ALSO, BUT THERE WERE MANY DIFFERENT WAYS OF ACCOMPLISHING THIS AND HE TOUGHT OUR PARTICULAR APPROACH WOULD PROBABLY END IN FAILURE. HE STATED HE WOULD PREFER THAT THE U.S. CONCENTRATE ITS EFFORT IN ONE AREA AND

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SUGGESED THAT WE FOCUS ON LAC PROVINCE AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF A ROAD TO THAT AREA. WHEN I RESPONDED THAT WE WERE ALREADY HEAVILY COMMITTED TO OTHER PROJECTS, HE REPLIED IN NO UNCERTAIN TERMS THAT WE COULD DROP THEM ALL IN FAVOR OF SUCH CONCENTRATION.

3. AGAIN WISH TO POINT OUT THAT PRESISHH IS UNDER PRESSURE FROM MANY DIFFERENT AREAS AND HE MIGHT WELL WISH TO RECONSIDER SOME OF THE MORE RASH PORTIONS OF HIS RESPONSE. I INTEND TO SEE FOREIGN MINISTER THIS WEEK WITH SIMILAR PRESENTATION AND INTEND TO TAKE NO DEFINITIVE ACTION UNTIL AFTER THAT CONVERSATION. HOWEVER, WISH TO STRESS THAT AT A MINIMUM IT WILL BE IMPERATIVE THAT WE STICK TO THE NEW PROGRAM EMPHASIS AGREED UPON IN OUR WASHINGTON MEETINGS. BRADFORD

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